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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 208892

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Doerr et al.

Application No. 09/771,430

Art Unit: 3628

Examiner: A. Chop

Filed: January 26, 2001

For: HANG TAG AND METHOD OF  
APPLYING HANG TAG TO AN  
ELONGATED OBJECT

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PENDING CLAIMS AFTER AMENDMENTS  
MADE IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 27, 2001

14. A hang tag capable of automatically and permanently being attached to an elongated object by a machine having at least one jaw suitable for applying a securement strap to an object, the hang tag comprising:

a first surface, a second surface, and a slot defined therebetween, wherein said slot has minimum dimensions of at least about 0.25 inches by about 1 inch so as to be capable of permitting the jaw to travel through the slot so that the securement strap can be threaded through the slot automatically by the jaw of the machine.

15. The hang tag of claim 14, further comprising at least one edge, wherein said slot is provided more than about 0.10 inches from each edge.

16. The hang tag of claim 14, further comprising at least one edge, wherein said slot is provided at least 0.15 inches from each edge.

17. The hang tag of claim 14, wherein said slot is elongated.

18. The hang tag of claim 17, wherein said slot is rectangular.

19. The hang tag of claim 18, wherein said slot has at least one arcuate edge.
20. (Amended) The hang tag of claim 14, wherein at least a portion is formed of a material selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polystyrene, polyolefins, polyphenylene, polycarbonate, polyvinylchloride, nylons, acrylics, aluminum, and combinations thereof.
21. The hang tag of claim 14, wherein at least a portion of the hang tag is formed of a cross-laminated material.
22. The hang tag of claim 21, wherein the cross-laminated material includes a high density polyethylene.
23. The hang tag of claim 14, further comprising a grommet reinforcing said slot.
24. The hang tag of claim 14, wherein said slot has minimum dimensions of at least about 0.312 inches by about 1.25 inches.
25. The hang tag of claim 14, wherein said slot is substantially elongated.
26. The hang tag of claim 17, wherein said slot is substantially rectangular.
27. A hang tag capable of automatically and permanently being attached to an elongated object by a machine having at least one jaw suitable for applying a securement strap to an object, the hang tag comprising:
  - a first surface, a second surface, and a slot defined therebetween; wherein said slot has minimum dimensions of at least about 0.25 inches by about 1 inch so as to be capable of permitting the jaw to travel through the slot so that the securement strap can be threaded through the slot automatically by the jaw of the machine; wherein said slot is at least 0.1 inches from any edge of said hang tag; wherein said slot has at least one arcuate

edge; wherein at least a portion is formed of a material selected from the group consisting of a polyethylene, polystyrene, polyolefins, polyphenylene, polycarbonate, polyvinylchloride, nylons, acrylics, aluminum, and combinations thereof; and wherein at least a portion is formed of a cross-laminated material.

28. A hang tag capable of automatically and permanently being attached to an elongated object by a machine having at least one jaw suitable for applying a securement strap to an object, the hang tag comprising:

a first surface, a second surface, and a slot defined therebetween, wherein said slot has minimum dimensions of at least about 0.312 inches by about 1.25 inches so as to be capable of permitting the jaw to travel through the slot so that the securement strap can be threaded through the slot automatically by the jaw of the machine; wherein said slot is at least 0.15 inches from any edge of said hang tag; wherein said slot has at least one arcuate edge; wherein at least a portion is formed of a material selected from the group consisting of a polyethylene, polystyrene, polyolefins, polyphenylene, polycarbonate, polyvinylchloride, nylons, acrylics, aluminum, and combinations thereof; and wherein at least a portion is formed of a cross-laminated material.